

mens have occurred in my garden, 18.vii.1984 and 28.vi.1986. In this area, ash is plentiful and privet rather scarce. All three specimens were of the melanic form *coronula* Haw., which Kettlewell (*The Evolution of Melanism*, 1973) regards a geographic (i.e. Northern) melanic. B. K. WEST, 36 Briar Road, Bexley, Kent.

THE GENUS DACNE (COL.: EROTYLIDAE) IN RADNORSHIRE. — Records of this genus in Wales as a whole are rather sparse. It may therefore be worth recording the occurrence of both species in the above vice-county. A large *Polyporus squamosus* Huds. ex Fr. fungus growing from an ash on the banks of the River Wye near Glasbury was found in June 1986 to contain numerous *Dacne bipustulata* (Thunb.) and a single exponent of *rufifrons* (F.). (Mr. Tom Eccles kindly drew my attention to this likely source, grid ref. S01739). Joy (1932, *A Practical Handbook of British Beetles* 1: 532), records both species as local, yet a survey of the literature shows that *rufifrons* is encountered noticeably less; on the other hand their UK distributions are similar. — D. A. PRANCE, 23 Brunswick Road, Kingston Hill, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey

---

### John Heath FRES

It is with great sadness that we record, as we go to press, the death of John Heath on 5th July 1987. A distinguished and much respected entomologist, he first caught the "public" eye in the 1960's when he initiated the Lepidoptera recording scheme from the Biological Records Centre at Monks Wood Experimental Station. He published in this Journal in 1965 a brief paper entitled "A Genuinely Portable M.V. Light Trap" — which led to the commercial production and widespread use of the "Heath Trap". (*Ent. Rec.*, 77:236-238). His major task in recent years was editing the successful series *The Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland*, initially with Curwen Books, and latterly with Harley Books. He joined the editorial panel of the *Record* in 1978, and was elected President of the British Entomological & Natural History Society in 1982. A friendly and approachable man, John was always willing to impart sound advice to his less experienced colleagues, and will be sorely missed. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family. Paul Sokoloff.

---

## Current Literature

**Hoverflies.** By Francis S. Gilbert, with plates by Steven J. Falk. Paperback, stiff covers, 8" x 6" approx., 66pp. Naturalists' Handbooks 5, Cambridge, 1986. £4.50. Also in hard covers, £15.00.

A notable addition to this excellent series of attractively-produced booklets; it would be hard to imagine a better or more comprehensive introduction to the family within the limits set.